



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



*Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.*

**DATE: February 1, 2015**

(Weeks of January 14 thru January 28, 2015)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks;  
however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

## **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

### **District 1 – Sgt. (Vacant)**

**(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)**

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

Three men from Lanark were exiting a field during the last deer hunting season in Region 1. District 1 Officer Beltran checked for compliance and noticed the firearms were not equipped with plugs. Each of the men removed only three rounds from their firearms and seemed genuinely surprised to discover a plug was not present. Warnings were issued and directions given on how to properly fit the firearms with plugs.

CPO Audrey Jones received a phone call from a trapper who had caught two bobcats in Conibear traps. The trapper explained he was trying to catch raccoons not bobcats. Officer Jones met with the trapper to investigate. The trapper had removed his traps and the bobcats. Officer Jones inspected the traps, along with the bobcats, further explaining to the trapper he shouldn't have removed anything from the location of occurrence until after an Officer investigated the situation. After an interview with the trapper, the bobcats were seized and the trapper was issued a written warning. It was determined the trapper had been wearing blaze orange and did have lawful traps. The bobcats will be preserved by a taxidermist and put on display in a public building.

#### **JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Hoogerwerf completed an investigation from the archery deer hunting season. A Hodgkins man was issued a citation for unlawfully attempting to take deer by use or aid of bait. A written warning was issued for unlawfully making available food for ingestion by wild deer.

#### **ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

CPOs Jamie Posateri, Ron Palumbo, and Captain Laura Petreikis attended the Annual QCCA Bald Eagle Days weekend event in Rock Island County. They attended with the Educational Trailer and spoke to school children and families about our job duties, recreational safety, and wildlife.

#### **LEE COUNTY**

A deer carcass was dumped in Dixon and was reported to Officer Beltran. Upon arrival a chest cavity from what

appeared to be a properly harvested deer was present in the street. A man discovered the partial carcass when he returned home and drove over the item with his small car. No suspects have been identified and the placement of the carcass remains under investigation.

CPO Teas issued a Lee County subject a citation and two written warnings for killing a deer during archery season without having a valid permit. The hunter killed the deer then later purchased the permits.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

A Shirland man was exiting the field seven minutes after legal shooting hours on a bitter cold day when Officer Beltran from District 1 was waiting to perform an inspection. The man was very cold and stated his firearm was still loaded and he did not have the effort to unload it due to the bitter weather. Officer Beltran agreed it was after hours and unloaded the gun for him instructing the man to pay closer attention to the official time during his next hunting adventure in Region 1.

#### WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPOs Ron Palumbo and Scott Wright patrolled a four county area during day one of the Mississippi Valley Gobblers North Coyote Hunting Contest. This event launched out of Riley's Road House in Port Byron. No enforcement action was taken on this patrol.

CPO Ron Palumbo investigated a criminal trespass to land/hunting without permission complaint in Whiteside County near the Ogle County line. This violation occurred during the last weekend of Illinois' deer season and is still under investigation.

### **District 6 - Sgt. Hank Frazier (Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)**

#### DEKALB COUNTY

CPO Murry met with DeKalb County biologist about hunters at Lake Shabbona State Park failing to turn in required CWD samples of harvested deer. As a result of that investigation, multiple hunters were cited for failure to submit deer for CWD sample as required. Hunters who successfully harvest a deer at Shabbona Lake State Park are required to submit the required sample within 48 hours of harvest. Multiple locations are approved drop off points for the samples. The compliance of this law is imperative and crucial in the research Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

Lake Shabbona was open to fisherman for an annual "night" fishing event on January 17th. Ice fishermen were allowed to fish until 10:00 p.m. to take advantage of late feeding activity by fish. While checking ice fishermen, CPO Murry observed one 19 year old male fishing and he was found to be in possession of a large amount of alcohol. The subject was cited for unlawful possession of alcohol by a minor. More than fifty fishermen took advantage of the extended hours of fishing.

CPO Murry was patrolling an area of heavy snowmobile activity. While patrolling that area a vehicle stop was conducted on a vehicle for improper lane usage. The driver of that vehicle was arrested on an active warrant from DeKalb County for failure to appear on unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. He was also found to be in possession of approximately 28 grams of cannabis and multiple large items of drug paraphernalia. He was charged with unlawful possession of cannabis and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. A passenger in the vehicle was also arrested and charged with unlawful possession of cannabis.

#### LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Kaufman was conducting snowmobile compliance checks on the I & M Canal. During his detail he found two snowmobile operators without proof of insurance and one without current registration. Two citations and one written warning were issued.

CPO Kaufman handled a personal injury snowmobile accident. The operator was traveling approximately 45-50 mph when his snowmobile struck a small rise in a field. The snowmobile went airborne and almost went vertical. After traveling 14 feet in the air, the snowmobile came down on the left side. When it landed the operator put his left leg out to brace himself and broke his ankle. No citations or warnings were issued. Alcohol was not a factor in the accident.

Sergeant Frazier and CPO Kaufman destroyed over 130 pieces of evidence taken during 2014. Most of it was taken off of hikers at Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks. The evidence consisted mostly of drug paraphernalia which included pipes and vaporizers, cannabis up to 11 grams, LSD, and psychedelic mushrooms.

CPO Filipiak arrested an individual for unlawful possession of less than 2.5g cannabis. On a foot patrol at Matthiessen State Park CPO Filipiak identified two individuals smoking a cannabis cigarette. The individuals were arrested and issued a citation.

CPO Robert Finn of Region 1, District 6, was patrolling near the Starved Rock area. He observed a truck driving in the wrong lane and weaving within his lane. CPO Finn performed a traffic stop and determined the driver to be driving under the influence of alcohol. CPO Finn requested the driver to perform a field sobriety test of which he refused. The driver refused all tests and was arrested and taken to Oglesby Police Department. The driver's truck was towed from the scene. The driver received citations for driving in the wrong lane, having no proof of valid insurance and driving under the influence.

CPO Jansen arrested a snowmobile operator who fled when he was signaled to stop for a snowmobile safety and compliance check. The operator failed to stop for multiple stop signs while fleeing. CPO Jansen was able to locate the snowmobile parked outside of a business in Mendota. The operator was located inside and placed under arrest. He was transported to Mendota Police Department for processing and issued citations for resisting a peace officer, no valid insurance, no valid registration, operation of a snowmobile on a roadway, failure to stop when required, and operation of a snowmobile while driver's license is revoked.

CPOs Jansen and Filipiak were on patrol on the trails at Matthiessen State Park when they observed two subjects smoking a cannabis cigarette. Two additional cannabis cigarettes and a baggie of cannabis were discovered. Both subjects were issued citations for possession of cannabis < 2.5 gms.

#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

In June of 2014 Region I, District 6, CPO Frichtl arrested a Machesney Park man for operation of a watercraft while under the influence (OUI). In January 2015 the defendant pleaded guilty to OUI and received 12 months supervision, required Victim Impact Panel and \$580.00 fine in a negotiated plea.

At the request of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department Deputy, Region I, District 6, CPO Frichtl attended a meeting with a local senior citizen's group. CPO Frichtl presented a Power Point presentation concerning the duties of an Illinois Conservation Police Officer and answered questions regarding a host of conservation related law questions.

CPO ALT completed the following case/evidence dispositions for his recent arrests made to include:

A Michigan man was convicted for DUI and assessed a \$1500.00 fine with 12 months court supervision.

A Boone County man was convicted for driving while license revoked in Rock Cut State Park and assessed a \$530.00 fine.

A Winnebago County man was convicted for violation of a posted NO WAKE ZONE and assessed a \$700 fine.

A Minnesota man was convicted for driving while license suspended in Rock Cut State Park and assessed a \$200.00 fine.

A Winnebago County man was convicted for OUI- watercraft and assessed a \$2,000.00 fine with 12 months court supervision.

A Winnebago County man was convicted for driving while license suspended and reckless driving and assessed \$903.00 fine.

A Stephenson County man was convicted for unlawful possession of a firearm while deer hunting with a revoked FOID card. The felony was reduced to a misdemeanor per state motion. The hunter was assessed \$1727.00 fine.

A JoDaviess County man was convicted for deer hunting with buckshot with an unplugged shotgun and assessed a \$407.00 fine.

CPO Schoonhoven investigated an unlawful taking of whitetail deer violation and charged the hunter with unlawful taking of a whitetail deer.

### **District 7, Sgt. (Vacant)**

**(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)**

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

CPO Thompson performed an investigation into a complaint of hunting without permission in Fulton County. The complainant alleged he witnessed a man in blaze orange on his property. He observed the man fire a third of three total shots while standing just inside the complainant's timber. After following the tracks of the suspect, two deer were located on the property. CPO Thompson photographed the scene and seized the two deer as evidence. CPO Thompson proceeded to speak with the suspect. After confronted with the evidence, the suspect provided a full confession and was issued a citation for unlawful hunting without permission of the landowner and the two deer were seized as a result. The suspect was issued a mandatory court date at the Fulton County Courthouse, bonded on the scene, and released.

#### **HENDERSON COUNTY**

CPO Patrick Reid cited a Henderson County man for illegally killing a whitetail deer without a valid deer permit.

#### **KNOX COUNTY**

CPO Lazzell attended the annual snowmobile radar run at Lake Storey in Galesburg. The event was a success with no snowmobile safety or equipment violations observed. Multiple snowmobiles registered speeds over 100 mph with the top speed of the day being a 142 mph.

#### **PEORIA COUNTY**

CPO Gerard cited two subjects for unlawfully operating an ATV on railroad property in Peoria County. Numerous landowners have complained about the high volume of ATVs and dirt bikes trespassing in the area. The riders are causing damage to the properties and sometimes cutting down trees to clear riding paths.

#### **TAZEWELL COUNTY**

CPO Van Zant cited a subject for taking over the limit of catfish at Powerton Lake. The subject had fourteen catfish hidden in an empty tackle box. He was issued multiple citations for taking over the legal limit.

## **REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

### **District 2 – Sgt. Rich Riedel**

**(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

#### **KANE COUNTY**

Sgt Riedel, CPOs Fehrenbacher, Anderson, and Wollgast presented at the 2015 Illinois Parks Law Enforcement Association (IPLEA) winter conference which was held in Aurora. There were 24 representatives from many agencies throughout the state. Topics of instruction included Invasive species, illegal hunting practices, and snowmobile enforcement.

CPO Schreiber taught snowmobile safety registration, OUI laws, accident reporting, and basic operational and equipment needs to approximately 20 Cook county forest preserve and Homeland Security officers.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPOs Wagner and Schreiber responded to a snowmobile accident on Grass Lake. The operator sustained a broken collar bone and several broken ribs and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. Blood work from the hospital indicated the operator had a blood alcohol concentration of .125% and was subsequently arrested for operating a snowmobile while under the influence of alcohol, operating a snowmobile with a BAC over 0.08%, and operating a snowmobile without insurance.

CPO Winters and CPOT Semenik followed up on a snowmobile accident that occurred on Grass Lake. The subject struck a duck blind at approximately 50 mph. He was transported to the hospital where he was treated for two broken vertebrae in his neck and multiple fractures in his face. His blood results came back with a BAC of .113 and tested positive for cannabis and opiates. He was charged with operation of a snowmobile under the influence of drugs and alcohol, careless operation of a snowmobile, no proof of insurance, and operation without a trail sticker.

CPO Winters, CPO Davis, CPO Kelley, CPO Hurt and CPOT Semenik conducted a snowmobile detail on the Chain O' Lakes. Multiple snowmobiles were checked. One citation was issued for no proof of insurance.

CPO Wagner arrested a subject for unnumbered snowmobile.

CPO Wagner arrested a subject for ice fishing without valid sport fishing license.

CPOs Jason Hurt and Scott Wagner conducted ice fishing enforcement on Bangs Lake in Wauconda. Fifteen fishermen were checked and two written warnings were issued for fishing licenses not in possession.

CPO Jason Hurt was conducting ice fishing enforcement on Loon Lake in Antioch. As he walked onto the ice towards a shanty, two fishermen exited the shanty and approached him. While engaged in conversation with the two fishermen, CPO Hurt detected an odor of burnt cannabis. A check of the ice shanty revealed a very strong odor of burnt cannabis. When questioned, one of the subjects admitted to possession of the cannabis, a pipe, and a grinder. The subject was arrested for possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia.

#### McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Davis and CPOT Semenik obtained a grand jury subpoena for information found on an ATM receipt pursuant to felony resource theft. Records were obtained and further investigation is pending with the assistance of USFWS.

CPO Schreiber responded to a complaint involving a subject who supposedly killed a deer on private property without permission. Upon investigation it was determined that the hunter shot the 8 point buck with a compound bow from the second story window of his residence over freshly scattered shelled corn. The subject had the buck caped out and ready to take to a local taxidermist. Unfortunately, instead of a nice wall mount, he received a citation for hunting deer over bait and a \$250 civil penalty. The deer head was seized.

CPOs Schreiber and VanWiltburg arrested two brothers for fishing without permission in a local gravel pit pond. One subject stated that he was recently arrested by another CPO just a week or so earlier for doing the same thing and stated that his wife told him not to fish there before dropping him off.

CPO Wagner arrested a subject for DUI/Possession of cannabis/possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Wagner arrested subject for no blaze orange during firearm season.

CPO Wagner arrested subject for ice fishing without valid sport fishing license.

CPO Jason Hurt was conducting routine enforcement along Wonder Lake Road. While talking with a hunter getting ready to enter the woods for an afternoon of late winter antlerless only deer hunt, a snowmobile approached along the road. A routine stop and inspection of the snowmobile led to a citation for failure to provide proof of mandatory insurance and a written warning for operation of unnumbered snowmobile without registration or trail use sticker.

### **District 3 – Sgt. Mark Simon** **(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)**

#### **GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Anderson and Wollgast provided a presentation to the IPLEA (Illinois Park Law Enforcement Association) regarding their past experiences with high profile deer poaching cases.

#### **KANKAKEE COUNTY**

CPO Vadbunker cited three subjects that were found to be snowmobiling in a closed area of Kankakee River State Park. The park was closed for snowmobiling due to the archery season still in progress and additionally there was not enough snow to open the trails. Citations were issued to two subjects for snowmobiling in a restricted area and one subject was cited for illegally operating an unnumbered snowmobile. Warnings were issued for failure to have certificate of number in possession, failure to show valid insurance, failure to transfer certificate of number.

In a case of CPO Vadbunker which involved a fatal snowmobile accident, one of the subjects charged in that incident died after being involved in an automobile accident in which his BAC was .293. Charges are still pending against the operator in this case.

CPO Vadbunker cited two subjects for unlawfully snowmobiling in a restricted area at Kankakee River State Park. The snowmobile trail was closed due to archery season and deer hunting in progress. It was determined that the subjects had also operated their snowmobiles on private property without the landowner's permission. One subject was additionally cited for failure to display valid registration on the snowmobile. Warnings were issued for failure to display registration on the trailer and for snowmobiling without permission.

#### **KENDALL COUNTY**

CPO Bergland assisted the Kendall County Sheriff's Department with motorist assists during an inclement weather situation.

CPO Bergland responded to a call of a pedestrian on the Interstate. It was determined that the subject was homeless and CPO Bergland assisted the person by finding a homeless shelter for lodging and food and assisted in arranging travel for the subject to the location.

#### **WILL COUNTY**

CPO Honiotes handled a TIP complaint filed by goose hunters. While goose hunting, a group of men on an adjacent property began shooting firearms in their direction. One of the firearms was suspected to be a fully automatic rifle. The hunters heard bullets whistling past their location dangerously close. CPO Honiotes interviewed the hunters and further investigation is pending.

CPO Reid is investigating a complaint of hunting without permission of landowner. Interviews are scheduled.

CPO Honiotes observed a suspicious vehicle on a property where the landowners have a signed complaint requesting enforcement action for hunting and trespassing violations. He approached the vehicle and observed two partially clothed individuals in the back seat. A strong odor of cannabis was detected coming from the vehicle. The subjects were directed to clothe themselves and were asked if they had permission to be at this location. The subjects did not have permission to be there, and a subsequent check of their identification revealed that one of the subjects was wanted on a warrant for failure to appear for driving while suspended. The warrant was valid and the subject was taken into custody. ISP Troopers that were nearby came to assist and searched the vehicle and found several cannabis cigarette butts and a drug pipe.

CPO Honiotes assisted a USFWS Officer and multiple other agencies with the location and recovery of an individual on Midewin property. An amateur photographer slipped in the mud while in a restricted area of the prairie resulting in a compound fracture. The man was located and removed from the scene by EMS.

#### **District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon** **(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

<b>COOK COUNTY</b>
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While observing fishermen on the frozen waters of Lake Michigan, CPO Whitchurch observed one subject discard burned tobacco products onto the ice. The subject also discarded other litter onto the ice which then blew away. When the subject was about to leave the area and failed to pick up his litter, CPO Whitchurch made contact with the subject. The subject was cited for unlawful pollution of a waterway.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement at Lake Michigan, CPO Whitchurch checked a person whom he saw fishing and keeping yellow perch. This person placed the yellow perch in a bag and began to walk back to his vehicle with the fish, leaving all of his fishing equipment behind. He was in possession of twenty-seven yellow perch. The daily possession limit is fifteen. The subject was cited on multiple counts and assigned a court date in Cook County Court.

CPO Whitchurch investigated an incident at William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area, where a large semi style truck was hauling a large boat southbound on S Avenue O in the city of Chicago. Witnesses stated the height of the boat being hauled contacted a utility line which was strung across S Avenue O. By contacting the utility line, the force caused the utility pole which was on William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area property, to completely break off. The Chicago Fire Department responded to the scene. The semi style truck hauling the large boat involved in the incident left the scene before Chicago Police or Illinois Conservation Police arrived on scene. No witnesses were able to observe any license plates or business markings from the truck or boat. CPO Whitchurch reviewed numerous local businesses' security camera footages in an attempt to identify the truck and boat involved. None of the video footage viewed provided any investigatory information.

CPO Whitchurch was observing individuals fishing at Lake Michigan. As CPO Whitchurch approached to begin conducting compliance checks, two individuals hurriedly packed up their fishing gear and fish they had caught and hastily returned to their vehicle. CPO Whitchurch observed an Indiana license plate on the vehicle they were walking to. CPO Whitchurch caught up to the subjects and requested to see their fishing licenses as he inspected their catch. The two individuals were Indiana residents and did not possess valid nonresident Illinois sport fishing licenses. Both subjects were cited for fishing without valid nonresident sport fishing licenses.

Sgt. Shannon along with CPOs Farber, Gilmer, Macias, Whitchurch, Vaughan, Klemme, and Mooi spent a total of 19 shifts working the Illinois Conservation Police booth at the Chicago Boat and RV show held at McCormick Place in Chicago. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Law Enforcement, staff conversed with the public answering questions about boating laws, fishing laws, hunting laws, trapping laws, and other miscellaneous laws. CPOs also answered questions relating to the duties of Conservation Police Officers.

Sgt. Shannon along with CPOs Farber, Gilmer, Macias, Vaughan, and Mooi spent a total of 12 shifts working the Illinois Conservation Police booth at the Chicago Sportsmen Show located at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center located in Rosemont, Illinois. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Law Enforcement, staff conversed with the public answering questions about boating laws, fishing laws, hunting laws, trapping laws, and other miscellaneous laws. CPOs also answered questions relating to the duties of Conservation Police Officers.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Farber cited a Des Plaines man for transporting an uncased cross bow in a motor vehicle.

CPO Farber arrested two ice fishermen at Beck Lake for an over-limit of bluegill. The site specific regulation on blue gill is a 15 fish daily creel limit. In combination the men had a total of 58. Some of the bluegills were released alive, while others were dispersed between fishermen with less luck.

CPO Farber attended a Hunter's Safety course in Wheeling, IL. Topics discussed included firearms safety and the Wildlife Code.

### REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes

#### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

**(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)**

#### CLARK COUNTY

CPO Barnes issued a Clark county man a written warning for harvesting a doe prior to purchasing the deer permit that he used to tag it. The subject was in possession of an "either sex" permit but bought the "antlerless" permit to use after he harvested the doe. The subject also stated he did not receive his landowner tags until after the first firearm season.

CPO Moody responded to a report of a dead Bald Eagle north of West Union that was possibly shot. The Bald Eagle was relayed to the Raptor Center for assistance in determining cause of death. Preliminary findings are the Eagle was electrocuted by power transmission lines.

#### COLES COUNTY

CPO Moody interviewed a man who had shot an 8 point buck outside of Mattoon and only had an antlerless only tag. The man received multiple written warnings.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Moody and Barnes interviewed a Casey man who had shot a doe as well as a 7 point buck on separate dates and failed to tag or report the harvest of either. A citation and multiple warnings were issued.

CPO Moody interviewed a Casey man who admitted to killing a deer during firearm season and tagging it with his "either sex" tag and then later purchasing an "antlerless only" tag and removing the original tag and replacing it with the newly purchased tag. The man then continued to hunt on the previously used "either sex" tag. The man received multiple written warnings.

CPO Moody cited two Greenup men for hunting without permission in rural Cumberland County.

#### EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Greuel conducted a boat title investigation in Edgar County approving the boat for registration.



## SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Barnes issued a Shelbyville man who was deer hunting a written warning for not having a habitat stamp.

CPO Barnes issued a Decatur man who was archery deer hunting in Shelby County a written warning for no blaze orange during a firearm season.

Sgt. McReynolds and CPO Greuel assisted the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in responding to a report of a home invasion in progress. The suspect, a Mattoon man, had the prior day shot up his father's car and left it in a field. The man was taken into custody by walking out to Sgt. McReynolds who he had met in the past. He was booked into the Shelby County jail on burglary charges and was going to have a mental health evaluation.

OTHER: Sgt. McReynolds and CPO Greuel attended a "Below 100" instructor training class at the Springfield Police Training Center.

## **District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson**

**(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)**

## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Reeves and Sgt. Williamson utilized the Sector Scan sonar unit to assist the Cornbelt Fire Dive Team in an attempt to locate a missing person. Cornbelt Dive Team received information that a missing male may have gone into Crystal Lake in Urbana. Because there was about 6 inches of ice they had to use the Sector Scan sonar device. CPO Reeves and Sgt. Williamson assisted in searching likely areas but were unable to locate the missing person.

CPO Cottrell received a complaint of hunter harassment from a Champaign County hunter. The hunter stated he was hunting property just south of Urbana when a truck drove by. When the driver noticed the hunter, she stopped in the roadway and revved her engine and honked her horn multiple times. The hunter then noticed, after she pulled away, that she parked not far from his location. He then attempted to find the truck and ask what her problem was. He did not locate the driver, but did locate the truck in a driveway of a local house. CPO Cottrell then attempted to talk to the driver. He spoke with the mother of the driver at her house and the mother stated that she warned her to stop. CPO Cottrell was able to contact the driver by phone. When he advised who he was the driver began berating him on the phone. CPO Cottrell advised that he was going to issue her a written warning for the violation and hung up. About a week later Sgt. Williamson met with the driver and gave her copies of the law and advised her that if she did it again she would be arrested.

CPO Reeves received a complaint of two individuals gutting deer along a rural road in Champaign County. The complainant provided CPO Reeves with a license plate number and a vehicle description. CPOs Schultz and Viverito assisted CPO Reeves with his investigation. After interviewing multiple subjects it was discovered that a Penfield man shot one of the deer from a vehicle at night with a crossbow. Two other Champaign County men were arrested as accessories to the crime. A total of 15 citations were issued by the three officers, two deer were seized, and one crossbow was taken as evidence.

## IROQUOIS COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Schultz located a ground blind in rural Iroquois County that had been hunted recently. Upon investigation it was found to have a large amount of salt and cracked corn mix spread around it. The investigation is ongoing.

## DE WITT COUNTY

CPO Viverito was patrolling Clinton Lake State Park for anglers taking advantage of the warm weather to go fishing. CPO Viverito pulled into a hunter access parking lot located just north of the Highway 48 bridge. Two anglers were fishing just west of the parking lot. CPO Viverito made contact with the anglers discovering that one did not possess a fishing

license. CPO Viverito returned to the parking lot with the angler. The angler retrieved a traffic citation for identification from his vehicle. CPO Viverito noticed a hitter box located on the vehicle's dash. The man allowed CPO Viverito to search the vehicle and drug paraphernalia was discovered. The man also had a valid warrant for his arrest. The man was transferred to the DeWitt County jail and issued three citations.

#### LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPOs Schultz and Viverito conducted a coyote detail in rural Livingston County with the decoy.

#### MCLEAN COUNTY

Bloomington Police responded to a man with a gun call in a trailer park on the southwest side of Bloomington. Responding officers located a 21 year old male, outside his residence, in possession of a .177 caliber pellet rifle and three freshly killed rabbits. After conducting the initial investigation, Bloomington Police forwarded relevant information to the Conservation Police. CPO Graden followed up on the complaint. The resulting investigation determined the subject shot two of the three rabbits on private property without permission of the landowner. The subject claimed he returned home after hunting and placed the dead rabbits by his yard barn. A skunk appeared and ran off with one of the dead rabbits. The man grabbed his pellet rifle and pursued the skunk into the neighbor's yard. According to his story, he killed the skunk, recovered his rabbit, and returned home. The subject was unable to lead CPO Graden to the skunk carcass. One citation for hunting within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling without permission and four written warnings were issued

#### VERMILION COUNTY

While checking a hunting camp during the late winter antlerless season, CPO Schultz noticed a skinned deer that had been thrown down the ravine in front of an occupied cabin. Upon approaching the cabin he could hear the hunters talking about where they were going that evening. After a short interview and a compliance check it was found one of the hunters had not tagged the deer, checked it in, nor did he have his hunting license in his possession. CPO Schultz issued a citation and multiple warnings and advised the hunter to check in the deer immediately.

CPO Schultz handled a hunter harassment complaint regarding a hunter and a neighbor who had been shooting guns and using loud speakers to disrupt the hunter. It was later found both the complaining hunter and the harassing party had heavily baited areas on their respective properties. It was also found the complaining hunter had played a role in harassing the neighbors as well. Citations and written warnings were issued and all parties were advised to remove the food/bait and quit harassing one another.

CPO Schultz walked two properties in preparation for next year locating baited stands and mineral sites.

## **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

### **District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner**

**(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)**

#### ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Myers retrieved a dead immature bald eagle on Adams/Brown County line. It appears to have been electrocuted by a power line. The USFWS has been contacted in reference to the incident.

CPO Myers attended a Golden Lions Club meeting and conducted a presentation on the job duties of Conservation Police Officers after which he took questions from members. (15 members attended)

CPO Blazinic received a court disposition on two subjects he arrested for timber violations. One subject paid fines and court costs of \$971 for buying timber without a license. The second subject paid a fine and court costs on an amended charge in the amount of \$1857. He also paid \$280 restitution to IDNR.

#### BROWN COUNTY

CPO Blakeley received a court disposition on three subjects he arrested for deer hunting over bait. One subject paid fines and court costs of \$400 for deer hunting over bait and feeding of deer. The second subject paid a fine and court costs of \$120 for deer hunting over bait. The third subject paid a fine and court costs of \$120 for deer hunting over bait.

#### GREENE COUNTY

CPO Goetten received information regarding a Greene County subject who had shot a deer with a rifle. After a lengthy interview, the subject admitted to shooting one deer with a rifle in September. He was cited for the unlawful take of a deer during the closed season and the unlawful take of a deer with a rifle. The subject's rifle and an 8 point buck with velvet antlers were seized.

#### JERSEY COUNTY

Sgt. Wagner responded to a complaint of two individuals shooting Canada Geese and leaving them in the field. The complainant gave Sgt. Wagner a license plate number. Sgt. Wagner made contact with the owner of the vehicle and met him at the Jersey County Sheriff's Department. The subject was sixteen years old and brought his parents and two other subjects with him. The second subject was also sixteen and brought his dad. The third subject was fifteen years old. All three juveniles cooperated and admitted to shooting nine Canada Geese. They picked up three geese and left the rest at the scene.

#### MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Fraser attended court in Macoupin County for a forfeiture hearing from the Deer Task Force in November. The defendant failed to appear for his court date in December; however he did show up for the forfeiture hearing in January. The defendant's bow was awarded to the Department and the Failure To Appear warrant from the December court date was quashed with a plea of a \$200 fine plus court fees in addition to the bow forfeiture. The defendant's charges were unlawful whitetail deer hunting without a hunting license and unlawful whitetail deer hunting without whitetail deer permits.

#### PIKE COUNTY

CPO Blazinic received a court disposition on a subject he arrested for possession of a dangerous animal (alligator). The subject paid fines and court costs of \$552. He also forfeited the alligator to the department.

### **District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

**(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)**

#### CASS COUNTY

CPO Bettis issued multiple citations to a resident of Cass County for unlawful possession and take of a whitetail deer (10 point buck), unlawful possession/use of another's deer permit, and unlawful loaning a permit to another.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran received court dispositions on two subjects he arrested for OUI this past summer. Both persons pleaded guilty with one paying a fine and court costs totaling \$1915.00 and the other paying a fine and court costs of \$1177.00.

CPO Cochran attended a hunting safety class at Pana Jr High School and instructed students on hunting regulations.

CPO Cochran received a complaint regarding a subject fishing from a boat within the waterfowl refuge area at Sangchris Lake State Park. CPO Cochran responded from the Pana area and arrived just in time to catch the boat exiting the lake. Enforcement action was taken for unlawful fishing in a posted waterfowl refuge closed to all boat traffic.

CPO Wichern checked a boat on Sangchris Lake operating 15 minutes after sunset with no lights and discovered the passenger possessed three under sized crappie. The operator was given a warning for the lighting violation and the passenger was cited for the short crappie, which were photographed and released.

#### GREENE COUNTY

CPO Cochran received a court disposition on several subjects he arrested during a random outfitter inspection. The outfitter paid a \$200 fine for failure to maintain required records. Three of the outfitters clients each paid a \$120 fines for hunting without valid non-resident hunting license.

#### MASON COUNTY

CPO Blakeley and Wichern were on routine boat patrol on the Illinois River in the area of Sanganois Fish & Wildlife Area when they located a Peoria man archery deer hunting near Stewart Lake. The archery hunter possessed a loaded 22-250 rifle and 9mm handgun, and he was not in possession of his 2014 deer permits. The hunter paid \$1,112.00 in fines and court costs for the violations and was ordered to forfeit his 22-250 rifle to the IDNR.

#### MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Wichern conducted deer permit investigations in Morgan County and discovered one hunter took a deer without a permit, and another hunter transported an untagged deer. Both hunters were charged with corresponding deer violations.

#### SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Cochran interviewed a subject regarding a subject buying a deer permit and reporting a harvest of a doe nineteen minutes later. After a short interview, the subject admitted to shooting the deer without having any permits. The subject was cited for archery deer hunting without permits and issued two other written warnings.

CPO Cochran interviewed a subject regarding a subject buying a deer permit and reporting a harvest of a doe thirty-three minutes later. After a short interview, the subject admitted to shooting the deer without having any permits. The subject was cited for archery deer hunting without permits and issued two other written warnings.

#### SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern conducted deer permit investigations in Scott County and discovered one hunter took a deer without a permit, and another hunter transported an untagged deer. Both hunters were charged with corresponding deer violations.

CPO Wichern received information regarding a poached whitetail doe near Blackburn Lake in Scott County. After a short interview with the suspected poacher it was determined the deer was illegally shot with a .223 rifle after legal deer hunting hours. The hunter was issued citations for the violations.

CPO Wichern charged a Scott County man with illegal transportation of open alcohol and parking on the roadway while investigating deer shining complaints in south Scott County.

#### SCHUYLER COUNTY

CPO Cochran interviewed a subject regarding a subject buying a deer permit and reporting a harvest of an eight point buck thirty-two minutes later. After a short interview, the subject admitted to shooting the buck without having any permits. The subject was cited for archery deer hunting without permits and issued two other written warnings. The illegal buck was consequently seized.

## **District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker**

**(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)**

### **CLINTON COUNTY**

CPO Tapley conducted a deer permit investigation. A hunter was found to have shot two deer in one day and only had one permit. The hunter called his father to have him purchase a set of archery permits, which he did. The father took the permits to the son and tagged the second deer. The son was issued a citation and two written warnings. The father was issued two written warnings.

CPO Tapley closed out several old reports. Here are a few:

- A subject arrested in 2014 for possession of 5-20 cannabis plants pleaded guilty in court to a Class 4 felony, was fined \$3539, placed on two years probation, and served four days in the county jail. The man also pleaded guilty to the charge of driving while license suspended and was assessed costs only in the amount of \$172.
- A subject was charged in 2014 for falsification of deer records after it was learned from an informant that the hunter had shot a small buck with a bow and later reported it as a road kill deer. When the hunter found the deer, there was an infection on the back of its head. The hunter called CPO Tapley to ask what to do with it. CPO Tapley had told him to make sure he checked it in as an archery kill even though it had an infection and if the meat was spoiled, to dispose of it. The man pleaded guilty and was assessed a \$514 fine.
- A subject who was arrested by CPO Tapley in 2014 for DUI pleaded guilty and was assessed a \$2092 fine, 100 hours of community service and was placed on 1 year of supervision. His passenger, who was charged with illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, pleaded guilty and was assessed a \$575 fine.

CPO Tapley was off duty at his house when he answered his work phone. A person told CPO Tapley he had just witnessed a man shoot snow geese out of his truck just west of Carlyle. CPO Tapley drove to the area of the complaint, which was about 2 miles from his house and found a truck matching the description of the suspect's vehicle. After stopping the truck and speaking with the driver, the driver told CPO Tapley he had shot the geese out of the driver's window of his truck. There were 27 snow geese in the bed of the truck. CPO Tapley charged the man with hunting by the aid/use of a motor vehicle, unlawful over-limit of snow geese, and two written warnings. The shotgun was seized, also.

CPO Rolfingsmeier completed a deer permit investigation on a Madison County hunter. The Madison County hunter admitted to harvesting a doe during the 2014 Archery deer season without a valid archery deer permit in Clinton County. The hunter was issued a citation for unlawfully hunting deer without a valid archery deer permit and a written warning for failure to tag immediately upon kill.

### **MADISON COUNTY**

CPO Ray seized two lock-on tree stands from property where hunting is not permitted. One of the stands was baited with corn. A subject contacted CPO Ray and admitted to hunting without permission but made no admission to ever placing bait. The subject was issued a citation for hunting without permission of landowner and the tree stand was returned.

CPOs French and Goetten received a complaint of a stolen game camera on private property. An investigation led them to an individual from Brighton who admitted to stealing the camera, hunting without permission, unlawful take of whitetail deer (multiple), hunting with aid of a vehicle, hunting with a spotlight, hunting whitetail deer after hours, falsification of harvest records and hunting without valid deer permits. An individual from Godfrey and another

individual from Caseyville admitted to assisting/taking part with the individual in multiple acts/offenses. Charges are pending.

CPO French completed a deer investigation on an individual from Wood River. The individual admitted to taking a whitetail deer without valid archery permits. Citations and warnings were issued.

CPO Rolfsmeier assisted ISP with the apprehension of a fleeing suspect from a traffic stop. The vehicle the suspect fled from was a stolen vehicle. The suspect was apprehended with the aid of a K-9 unit.

CPO Rolfsmeier worked waterfowl hunters and is working on fur buyer inspections, and working on deer investigations.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles and CPO Sievers completed an inspection of a fur buyer in Randolph County. The fur buyer did not have some of the required information that he must maintain and the fur buyer was issued a written warning for the violation.

CPO Sievers and CPO Charles conducted a fur house inspection in Randolph County. The inspection begins by counting all of the hides in the fur buyer's possession, identifying any illegally obtained furs, and obtaining the fur buyer's records for review. CPO Sievers completed the inspection by validating that the fur buyer was properly providing receipts to the hunters and trappers, comparing the purchase and sale totals of furs by each species for two years, correctly completing the IDNR raw fur purchase report, and inspect the fur buyer's permits. CPO Sievers identified that the fur buyer failed to record the purchase of bobcat hides from Missouri trappers in the 2013-2014 IDNR raw fur purchase report. The fur buyer also could not provide the legality of his deer hide purchases. Inedible parts of deer may only be sold by legally taken deer (hunted) or from licensed game breeders. Deer parts obtained by road kill or salvage permits cannot be sold. The fur buyer was issued two written warnings.

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Charles received a call from the Washington County Sheriff's Office of a landowner that was concerned of large animal tracks in their yard. CPO Charles investigated the tracks and showed the property owner the characteristics that identified the tracks as a dog track and not a large cat track.

### REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber

#### **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

**(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)**

#### GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff found a juvenile waterfowl hunter sitting in his vehicle parked on a rock road leading to a boat ramp. The vehicle was running with the driver's side window rolled down. He possessed a loaded uncased shotgun, but didn't possess a FOID card. The Officer followed the juvenile to a residence where the father (valid FOID) took possession of the shotgun. CPO Schoenhoff issued two written warnings and provided information to the juvenile about FOID cards.

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden observed a truck travelling down a roadway shining a handheld light at deer. He followed the vehicle undetected and conducted a traffic stop at 6:05 a.m. while the vehicle was stopped in the roadway shining again. A loaded 1911, .45 caliber hand gun from the driver's waist band was secured along with a loaded .22 caliber rifle under

the seat of the rear seat passenger. A further search of the vehicle revealed another loaded revolver from the center console, a loaded Henry Repeating Arms .44 caliber rifle and a 12 gauge shotgun loaded with slugs from the bed of the truck. The truck was occupied by three males. CPO Folden seized both rifles. The driver and back seat passenger were issued a citation for the unlawful use of lights from a vehicle to shine deer and a citation for the unlawful transportation of an uncased loaded gun. The men were within one mile of a location where they planned to hunt. Only one man had deer permits. The other men admitted their intent to help him fill his tags. The deer permits the back seat passenger had were for the wrong county. The men also admitted they were going to hunt deer with the rifles. All three men had valid Illinois Concealed Carry Permits.

CPO Folden was contacted by Hamilton County Sheriff's Department to assist with three deer they located during another investigation. While at the residence, the freshly killed deer were found to be illegally possessed. During the investigation, CPO Folden recovered an uncased loaded AR-15 in the subject's truck. The subject is a convicted felon. The man was charged with unlawful transportation of an uncased loaded firearm, unlawful possession of three deer (felony resource theft), and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon. The rifle and three bucks were seized.

CPO Folden assisted Mcleansboro Police Department with a reckless driving complaint. The CPO located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop for cell phone use while driving. He issued written warnings for distracted driving and illegal lane use.

CPO Folden went to the residence of a Hamilton County landowner to interview a husband and wife he expected of illegally using deer tags. The CPO compiled information from complaints and the IDNR Point of Sale system prior to the interview. Point of Sale records indicated the husband and wife (both in mid 70s) harvested two deer a year each for several years. CPO Williams assisted with the interviews. The man said he used his wife's tags for several years. He was upset the deer damaged his crops. He harvested deer on his property to fill his and his wife's tags for at least 3 years. The husband and wife were issued two written warnings each; one for falsification by using his wife's permit and one for hunting without a permit.

CPO Williams received a disposition for a Hamilton County case in which a non-resident pleaded guilty to the unlawful take of deer. As part of the plea, the non-resident surrendered two deer mounts, paid fines, penalties and court costs in excess of \$1,400. Both deer mounts are on display at the Hamilton County Courthouse.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area workers contacted CPO Folden to report a bag they found on state property containing drug contraband. The bag contained numerous paraphernalia and drug items. The case is under investigation.

#### POPE COUNTY

CPO Johnson issued a subject a citation for hunting without a valid deer permit. He issued written warnings for hunting without a valid deer permit, hunting deer without a permit in possession and to a subject hunting ducks without a federal stamp in possession.

#### SALINE COUNTY

CPO Diggins responded to a hunting without permission complaint at a rural subdivision lake. Two hunters from Carrier Mills parked and crossed subdivision property to hunt property they had permission to hunt. Upon conducting a compliance check, one hunter was in possession of an unplugged shotgun. He was issued a citation for the violation and written warning for hunting without permission. The other hunter was issued a written warning for hunting without permission.

CPO Diggins met with a Shawneetown hunter regarding a deer administrative investigation. The hunter had failed to purchase his hunting license, permits, and habitat stamp before archery deer hunting. The hunter stated it was his first

opportunity to deer hunt this year and forgot to buy his permits and license. The hunter was cited for no valid hunting license and issued written warnings for no permit or habitat stamp and failure to tag.

Franklin County

CPO Lay conducted a traffic enforcement patrol in Wayne Fitzgerald State Park after receiving complaints from site staff about tailgating and speeding drivers. A Perry County woman was stopped in the park and cited for driving with a suspended license and operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. Written warnings were also issued for an expired registration sticker and speeding. The driver's vehicle was towed from the stop and impounded.

CPOs Lay and Williams assisted Benton Police with the search for a missing person. Benton Police requested the expertise of the Conservation Police in their search for a Benton resident who has been missing for approximately one month. Officers utilized a Jon boat and sonar equipment to search a small body of water just outside of the city limits. Nothing was located in the water by the CPOs.

CPOs Jourdan and Williams continued the investigation into a double fatal boat accident that occurred at Rend Lake on December 29th.

CPO Williams assisted West Frankfort Police Department by locating a stolen vehicle from their jurisdiction. The CPO remembered the vehicle from a concerned landowner mentioning the vehicle earlier in the day.

### **District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

**(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)**

#### **CLAY COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe and CPO Holland responded to a complaint of hunters firearm deer hunting while wearing no blaze orange. CPO Holland located one of the hunters and CPO Buhnerkempe located the other. Both hunters were cited for wearing no blaze orange while firearm deer hunting.

#### **CRAWFORD COUNTY**

CPO Dustin Taylor interviewed a subject in regards to a 9 pt buck deer he checked in. Subject stated immediately that his son killed the buck. When interviewed the son stated he killed the buck on 11/01/14 and asked father to purchase a deer permit. The 9 pt buck was tagged with father's deer permit and called in on 11/02/14. The son was issued two citations and a warning. The father was issued one citation.

CPO Dustin Taylor and Sgt Dave Hyatt stopped at a deer camp in Crawford County with three deer hunters from Alabama and eight dead deer. One deer had a subject's tag on it and that subject was not present. After an interview, one of the hunters admitted he used his friend's deer permit and the friend is in Alabama. Four of the deer were shot by a slug and tagged with an archery permit. Six of the deer were killed the day before and were never checked in. Five citations were issued.

Sgt Hyatt and CPO Dusty Taylor attended the Wabash Valley Whitetails Unlimited Banquet in Robinson. Sgt. Hyatt spoke to the group about some of the deer cases made in the area this past year and ways the public could assist with catching wildlife violators.

#### **EDWARDS COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe investigated a complaint of a woman allowing another hunter to use her tag on a deer. CPO Buhnerkempe interviewed the woman and she admitted to allowing her son to use her deer permit to tag a 9 point buck he'd shot. CPO Buhnerkempe interviewed the woman's adult son and he admitted to killing the deer and tagging it with his mother's permit. He also admitted to hunting on his mother's and stepfather's property with no deer permits and no



habitat stamp. The woman was issued a citation for allowing another person to use her deer permit. The son was cited for using another's deer permit, hunting deer with no valid permit, hunting deer with no habitat stamp, and failure to immediately tag a deer upon harvest. They were both assigned mandatory court appearances in Edwards County. The deer head was recovered at a local taxidermist and seized as evidence.

#### FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Smith investigated a complaint originating from the Farina Police Department. Farina Police were alerted to gunshots coming from the outskirts of town near the southwest corner. They found two goose hunters getting in their vehicle. The officers checked their hunting licenses, FOID, driver's licenses, and firearms. The officers found a loaded high powered rifle in the rear passenger area of the vehicle. The two did have one snow goose in the bed of the truck. CPO Smith arrived and spoke to the two hunters separately and inquired about the loaded rifle. Suspicions were that they could have used the rifle to kill the goose. The chamber of the rifle was checked and did not smell any fresh gunpowder. The owner of the rifle said he went coyote hunting the evening before and forgot to unload it. Both subjects told me the same story. CPO believed that the goose was killed with the 12 gauge shotguns they had with them (fresh gunpowder from each). CPO Smith cited the driver/owner of the loaded rifle for unlawful transport of loaded firearm.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe and CPO Holland investigated a TIPS complaint of coyote hunters trespassing on private property with dogs in Richland County. CPO Buhnerkempe and CPO Holland located the coyote hunters just over the line in Lawrence County. The hunters admitted they had trespassed on multiple landowners with their dogs. Five individuals were cited for hunting without permission of landowner.

#### WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe and CPO Holland investigated a complaint of 2 brothers who had allegedly taken multiple deer unlawfully. CPO Buhnerkempe had received multiple anonymous tips as well as an administrative investigation on the subjects. After speaking with both subjects, it was determined 1 subject had taken a 17 point buck unlawfully with a crossbow and the other subject had taken 2 bucks unlawfully, an 8 point with a rifle and a 13 point with a bow as well as a doe he killed with a bow during firearm season. One subject was cited for hunting deer with no valid permit (x2), hunting deer with no valid hunting license, unlawful take of deer during closed season (x2), unlawful take of a deer with a rifle, and failure to immediately tag deer upon harvest (x2). This subject also has charges pending for possession of a firearm with revoked FOID and felony resource theft. CPO Holland cited the other subject. A total of 3 buck heads were seized along with 1 crossbow.

### **District 16 – Sgt. (Vacant)**

**(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)**

#### JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Taylor interviewed two subjects from Lumber Mills involved in a timber case in Williamson County.

CPO Taylor is assisting Union County Sheriff's Department with an investigation into a roll over vehicle accident that had occurred earlier in the week at Giant City Lodge. Over \$5000 dollars damage was estimated to have occurred to a stairwell across from the lodge due to the accident.

CPO Mohrman reported a disposition for an OUI arrest from Kinkaid Lake this last summer. A subject pleaded guilty and paid fines and costs totaling \$1820.00

CPO Mohrman reported the disposition of a subject trespassing with his vehicle (black bronco) and fishing without permission that resulted in that subject paying \$520.00 total fines and costs. The subject was apprehended in the

summer of 2014 by CPOs Boston, Mohrman, Taylor and federal Refuge Officer Campbell on the, now former, Burning Star Mine #5 property.

CPO Mohrman met with adjoining landowners and land management staff on the newly acquired Site W (Burning Star) property. A review of some of the boundaries and locations for gates was discussed and laid out. Additionally, CPO Mohrman showed the new landowners some areas on their properties which have occupied CPOs time in the past, such as where the subject who trespassed with the black bronco was caught.

While patrolling at Trail of Tears State Forest, CPO Mohrman observed two horses run up to the roadway and then gallop towards State Route 127. CPO Mohrman contacted Union County Sheriff's Office who advised they were looking for these horses. The horses began to run and walk on Route 127 and CPO Mohrman stayed with them to stop traffic and attempted to get the horses off the road. Shortly before State Route 146 the horses were stopped and caught with the help of private citizens and buckets of sweet feed. The horses were returned to the owner who has no idea how they got loose.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Thompson stopped an ATV being operated on the roadway. The operator had just finished deer hunting on the last day of the season and was headed home. The teenager was issued a written warning and pushed the ATV the remainder of the way home.

CPO Thompson issued a deer hunter a citation for hunting without a permit and a written warning for failing to immediately tag the deer.

CPO Thompson issued a subject a citation for deer hunting without a deer permit. He was also issued written warnings for hunting without a license, habitat stamp and failure to tag deer immediately after harvest.

CPO Thompson was contacted by personnel at Ferne Clyffe reporting a truck parked in the ditch near a picnic area. The driver was issued written warnings for parking on the grass, not having a front license plate, failure to notify Secretary of State of address change, and not having his dog on a leash.

CPO Thompson issued a goose hunter a citation for transporting a loaded, uncased shotgun on an ATV; and written warnings for operating an ATV on roadway and open alcohol.

#### PERRY COUNTY

CPO Vasicek responded to a call in reference to two subjects allegedly hunting waterfowl within 100 yards of an occupied dwelling without consent of homeowner in Perry County. By the time the CPO arrived the subjects had departed. The complainant provided two license plates to the officer. Upon investigation of the scene it was determined that the hunters were hunting exactly 100 yards from the dwelling, which is the minimum distance hunters can lawfully hunt with shot shells from a dwelling without consent. The landowner requested the officer to speak with subjects despite the lack of evidence that the hunt was unlawful. CPO Vasicek began to look for the subjects. Approximately 1 hour later the complainant called back and stated the hunters were back setting up to field hunt geese in the same location. Upon return, two hunters were located in the field. They were closer this time, hunting 88 yards from dwelling. One subject did not have his license in possession and possessed toxic shot shells (lead). The shells were seized and the subject was cited for possession of lead shot shells. Warnings were issued for hunting too close to the residence upon the complainant's request.

#### UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek charged a Georgia hunter on case/investigation stemming from the first firearm season. Georgia Wildlife Officers tracked down subject at CPO Vasicek's request. The subject admitted via phone he unlawfully took two antlered deer during the firearm season. He and his juvenile sons only purchased antlerless only permits, but harvested two bucks in Union County. The untagged carcasses were seized during a deer camp inspection and donated to a local

food bank. The two sets of antlers were transported to Georgia the day of harvest. Georgia wardens seized the antlers and secured a written statement. The subject was charged with unlawful hunting without a valid deer permit (two counts), unlawful take of white tailed deer (two counts), unlawful possession of white tailed deer (two counts), transporting untagged deer (two counts), and failure to check in harvested white tailed deer (two counts).

CPO Vasicek located three subjects unlawfully hunting waterfowl in a restricted area of Union County SFWA. The subjects were located in a waterfowl refuge. Two harvested Canada Geese were seized. Two of the three subjects were cited for the offense. The third subject was a minor.

#### WILLIAMSON COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Boston stopped to assist a female driver that had ran out of fuel. She stated she called her husband and that he and a friend were on the way with gas. A registration check showed the registered owner was wanted on a Williamson County warrant for Failure To Appear (FTA) on a DUI charge. CPO Boston advised the woman driver that he would sit and wait with his emergency lights on for her safety. Upon the arrival of the husband, CPO Boston interviewed them and found they were not the person wanted on the warrant. The registered owner was deceased and they were using his license plates. The female driver was issued a written warning for an expired driver's license and no valid registration on the car.

CPO Boston received a call in regards to two boats on Crab Orchard Lake that were in distress because of being stuck in thick ice. CPO Boston and USFWS Officer Schelling responded by boat. On their way to the location of the two stuck boats they came upon another boat also stuck in the ice. The strong south wind and warming temperature had blown the ice on the south side to the north side and overlapped making the ice approximately 10 to 11 inches thick in areas. The officers were able to break through and get all three boats free with the eight duck hunters on board the boats. They were thankful they didn't have to spend the night on the lake.

CPO Boston assisted Williamson County Sheriff with a domestic in rural Cartersville area at 5:30am. CPO Boston arrived first and was able to separate the parties. The Sheriff's deputies took over when they arrived.

CPO Boston was traveling through Herrin when he observed a vehicle fleeing from a Herrin City Police car. CPO Boston assisted when the vehicle finally came to stop at a pharmacy drive up. The woman had reached 85 mph in a 30 mph zone. The woman refused to exit the vehicle or shut the vehicle off. A large dog in the vehicle made it difficult to get the woman out of the car. Finally four officers on scene got her removed and placed under arrest for numerous charges including aggravated fleeing and eluding.

CPO Boston talked at a Hunter Safety class in Marion on hunting laws and safety.

CPO Boston wrote a Marion duck hunter a citation for expired registration on his boat. The man was also issued a written warning for life jackets not being accessible.

CPO Boston responded and assisted a Williamson County deputy with a domestic in rural Marion.

CPO Boston responded to a report of a vehicle being blocked by a violent person in rural Williamson County. The CPO arrived at the location and found two of the landowners in that area had blocked the public road with their trucks. One of the landowners said the driver of the vehicle trespassed on him in the past and he was driving 90 miles an hour on their road. CPO Boston drove to the vehicle they were blocking and spoke to the driver. The driver told the CPO they had just driven on the road and the one landowner broke his windshield out several months earlier. The sheriff's deputies arrived and ended up writing the driver for no front license plate, no valid insurance and no driver's license on his person.